

INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

5th FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

TUESDAY, AUGUST 29, 2006

The International Bridge Commission met at the above place and date.

Meeting convened at 3:05 p.m. Chair Tanny Berg presided over the meeting. The following were present:

Tanny Berg, D-1 (Rep. Ann Morgan Lilly)
Daniel Barnes, D-4 (Rep. Melina Castro)
Mike Breitingner, D-7 (Rep. Steve Ortega)
Gerardo Camacho, D-3 (Rep. J. Alexandro Lozano)
Mike Dipp, Mayor's Appointee

Others Present:

Daryl W. Cole, Streets Director
Josette Flores, Assistant City Attorney
Richard Bristol, Street Department
Ray J. Mendoza, Street Department / Bridges & Meters Division

Absent:

Blanca Dominguez, D-6 (Rep. Eddie Holguin, Jr.)
Y. I. Santoscoy, D-2 (Susannah M. Byrd)
Martin Silva, D-8 (Rep. Beto O'Rourke)
Vacancy – D-5 (Rep. Presi Ortega)

Agenda

Item 1: The meeting was called to order by Chair Berg.

Item 2: Motion made by Mr. Breitingner, seconded by Mr. Barnes and carried to approve the Minutes for the meeting of Tuesday, July 25, 2006.

AYES: Mr. Berg, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Mike Breitingner, Mr. Camacho, Mr. Dipp.

NAYS: None

NOT PRESENT FOR THE VOTE: Ms Dominguez, Ms Santoscoy, Mr. Silva.

Chair Berg asked that he be e-mailed the statistics relating to the Bridge. Mr. Bristol will send them to Chair Berg.

Item 3: GSA canceled their presentation. Motion made by Mr. Dipp, seconded by Mr. Breitingner, and unanimously carried to table Item 3 until the next meeting.

Item 4: Motion made by Mr. Barnes, seconded by Mr. Dipp, and unanimously carried that the Commission reaffirms their commitment towards the SIB loan.

Chair Berg stated that as part of this motion they would like to keep getting updates on how this is proceeding, when to expect the actual funding will take place, and when they can give this information to the community.

Mr. Cole stated that Management can give the Commission an update of where we are on the International Bridge projects as a standing item on the agenda at every meeting.

Chair Berg stated they want a status on the Headhouse Project with GSA and the TxDOT project.

AYES: Mr. Berg, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Mike Breitinger, Mr. Camacho, Mr. Dipp.

NAYS: None

NOT PRESENT FOR THE VOTE: Ms Dominguez, Ms Santoscoy, Mr. Silva.

Item 5: Bridge Management Report - Mr. Mendoza reported that the budget for the Bridges was adopted. Discussion held on the increase in services to the bridges, and the expansion of the Zaragoza Toll Plaza which includes updating the entire computer system. The expansion of the Zaragoza Bridge is 50% completed and Chair Berg asked that Management let the Commission know when the expansion is complete.

Mr. Cole announced that Mr. Mendoza received a state appointment in June 2006 as a member of the Border Advisory Committee by the Texas Transportation Commission.

The Commission was informed that there is a shortage in the Head House Project and Chair Berg asked that Staff draft a letter of inquiry to our representative, Silvestre Reyes, and to the TxDOT Commissioner requesting the status of the Head House Project, and stating that the Commission is extremely concerned about the budget.

Staff is to send the draft to the Commissioners through e-mail before the next meeting, and if there are questions they can e-mail it back to Staff with their suggestions.

Item 6. Discussion held on setting up Ad-Hoc Committees specifically to deal with bridge issues. Mr. Barnes asked that we have an action item on each agenda to allow for the establishment of an ad hoc committee.

Mr. Breitinger reported that the Central Business Association (CBA) through sponsors raised around \$3500 that will be dedicated to the Bridges, and wondered if it should be presented to the City. Mr. Cole stated that the City can accept a donation, but will discuss it with Josette Flores, Assistant City Attorney, before accepting a donation.

Chair Berg directed Staff to prepare a written overview for the next meeting of a report that first will be sent to City Council, and then a presentation made at a later City Council meeting, possibly the second or third week of October. The Commission will then formally thank them for their support of the Commission and the bridges. This report will fulfill the requirements of this Commission to make an annual report to City Council.

Mr. Barnes asked if they could change the meetings to earlier in the month instead of the last week of the month. Everyone agreed to change the meetings to the third Tuesday of the month, same time and location.

Chair Berg stated that Mr. Roger Curie has resigned from the Commission. He will speak with Representative Presi Ortega about getting a replacement for Mr. Curie.

Item 7. OPEN COMMENTS – None.

Item 8. Motion was made by Mr. Dipp, seconded by Mr. Camacho and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 4 p.m.

Approved as to form:

Department Head / Board Secretary